



**MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND
DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT**

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**RESPONSE TO THE WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION BY THE
HON. RATU JOSAI NIUDAMU**

Parliament

Tuesday 29 September

Government Building

Question 220/2026

I take this opportunity to respond to the Written Question posted by the Hon. Ratu Josaia Niudamu with reference to the number of farm access roads across the four divisions from November 2025 to July 2026 under the Rural Outer Island (ROI) Programme.

Response:

The Rural Outer Island Programme aims to improve basic infrastructure and access to essential services for people living in rural and outer island communities. It helps address challenges such as poor connectivity and limited access to markets and services, while supporting livelihoods and creating better opportunities for rural communities.

The Government allocated a total of **\$2.93 million** under the Rural Outer Island Programme during the last financial year to improve farm access roads and strengthen rural connectivity throughout Fiji.

These roads are important because they make it easier for farmers to transport their produce, for families to reach essential services, and for people in rural areas to access opportunities that can improve their livelihoods. Improved farm access roads can also reduce transportation costs, minimise post-harvest losses, improve productivity, and make better use of agricultural land.

Key works completed under the Ministry’s ROI Programme across the four divisions are tabulated below:

Table 1:

During the last financial year, the Ministry completed **three farm access road projects**, covering a total of **8.7 kilometres** in the Central Division.

Farm Access Road	Length (km)	Division
Wainimakutu-Nasava Access Road Phase 2	3	Central Division
Namoli Access Road Phase 2 - Waidalice	1.7	
Logani Community Farm Access Road	4	

While the total distance may seem modest, these roads are important in improving access through the interior areas of Naitasiri, Namosi and Navosa. They provide access to productive agricultural land, improve movement between communities, and give farmers a more reliable route to transport their produce to market.

Table 2:

In the Northern Division, the Ministry completed approximately **22.5 kilometres of farm access roads**, as tabulated below:

Farm Access Road	Length (km)	Division
Niurua Farm Road	6	Northern Division
Makolei Community Farm Road Phase 3	3	
Lomaloma Community Farm Access Road	4.5	
Caurokodrika Community Farm Access Road	5	
Navau Community Farm Access Road	4	

Many farmers in these areas were previously disconnected from the main road network, making the movement of produce and access to essential services more difficult, particularly during adverse weather. These projects have improved access to the main roads, reduced travel difficulties, and made it easier for farmers to transport their produce to market.

Table 3:

In the Eastern Division, the Ministry completed two major projects totaling **16.4 kilometres**. These are:

Farm Access Road	Length (km)	Division
Naqalotu - Tawava-Daviqele Farm Road	6.8	Eastern Division
Cakova - Vadra Access Road	9.6	

These projects are important in extending access to communities and agricultural areas that have traditionally faced challenges due to their location.

As these linkages are further expanded and connected with the existing road network, they will improve movement for farmers and communities and support greater access to markets and essential services.

Table 4:

In the Western Division, the Ministry completed approximately **40.5 kilometres of farm access roads**, representing the largest share of roads delivered under the ROI Programme.

Farm Access Road	Length (km)	Division
Lalati Farm Access Road Phase 2	3.5	Western Division
Narata-Vunamoli Phase 2	12	
Nasaucoko Phase 3	9	
Soa-Nalidi Community Farm Access Road	8	
Navilawa-Yaloku Farm Access Road in Nalotawa – Ba	8	

These roads provide important access to the agricultural highlands of Ba, Navosa and Nadi, where communities are engaged in livestock farming, root crop production and other agricultural activities. Better road access allows farmers to move their goods more easily, reach markets and make better use of the land available to them.

Between November 2025 and July 2026, the Rural Outer Island Programme has delivered approximately **88.1 kilometres of farm access roads** across the four Divisions.

The impact of these investments goes beyond the kilometres constructed.

- Firstly, farmers can transport their produce to markets more efficiently and at lower cost.
- Secondly, improved access makes it easier to bring previously difficult-to-reach agricultural land into productive use.
- Thirdly, better roads improve access to schools, health facilities and other essential government services.
- And importantly, these investments support local economic activity and create employment opportunities through construction and related works.

The ROI Programme remains an important investment in improving access and supporting development in rural and outer island communities. The work carried out across the four Divisions is helping farmers, families and communities overcome some of the challenges associated with distance and poor road access.

Sincerely

Honourable Mosese Bulitavu

**Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Risk
Management**